U.S. Serial No.: 10/693,901 Docket No.: <u>1232-4495US1</u>

Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed prior to prosecution of the above-

identified application for patent. Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, Claims 1-

23 will have been canceled, Claims 24-31 will have been amended, new Claims 32-34

will have been added, and Claims 24-34 will be pending. No new matter has been

introduced. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment on the merits is respectfully requested.

AUTHORIZATIONS:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may

be required for the timely consideration of this amendment, or credit any overpayment to

By:

Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4495US1.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 19, 2004

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